

<Reviews>A comparison of the system and education of sport science at three universities : German sport University, University of Tsukuba, and University of Jena

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Review

A comparison of the system and education of sport science at three universities : German Sport University, University of Tsukuba, and University of Jena

Dieter Teipel*

This short note is to present a brief overview over the three institutes of sport science with which I have worked in the recent ten years : German Sport University in Köln, the Institute of Health and Sport Science of the University of Tsukuba and the Institute of Sport Science at Friedrich-Schiller-University at Jena. In order to make a reasonable comparison of the three institutes I would like to use certain criteria or aspects of evaluation. For the sake of an overview I would like to suggest the following information table. The comparison refers to a general description of the system of the institutes, education and behavior of students.

As I have worked with the institute of sport psychology of the German Sport University in Köln for a long time, the department of sport psychology of the Institute of Sport Science of the University of Tsukuba for one and 3/4 years, and started to work with University of Jena only four months ago, my assessment might not be very well balanced. However, it is hoped that the comparison of the three institutes in the different cultural, social and economical backgrounds will bring a contribution to getting insight into the future de-

velopment of each institute of sport science.

After the silent revolution in the former German Democratic Republic (GDR) in 1989 and the German unification on 3rd of October 1990 the whole university system in the new five eastern German states has been restructured and is still being restructured. This meant that several professors had to leave the university because of political-ideological reasons and several others because of retirement. Therefore the whole staff was reevaluated concerning sports-scientific abilities and received very different kinds of new positions. The university system of former West Germany is also applied in the new five states in East Germany. This restructuring is associated with a lot of personnel problems and also curriculum problems. In the GDR the institute consisted of about 80 full-time professors and coaches who were specialised in coaching the high level athletics of variety of sport events including, for example, even bob and sled sleighing. The results of the such personnel policy were a lot of gold medals at the Olympic Games, World Championships and European Championships. But now this excellent talent diagnosis and counseling system have broken down and can not be re-established in its former shape. Thus we are facing a lot of problems of adaptation.

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COMPARISON INSTITUTES OF SPORT SCIENCES

	Deutsche Sporthoch-schule Köln	Institute of Health and Sport Sciences of the University of Tsukuba	Institut für Sportwissenschaft der Friedrich-Schiller-Universität Jena
District	Northrhine-Westfalia	Ibaraki	Thüringen, one part of former GDR
Inhabitants	17.5 million	8 million ?	2.7 million
City	about 1,000,000	120,000	100,000
Teachers	about 200	about 100	about 40
Total number of students	about 6,000	about 13,000	about 9,500
Sport students	about 6,000	about 1,500	about 400
Departments	18	about 10	6 : sport medicine, biomecha- nics, education, training scien- ce, sport psychology, sociology
Studies	many different studies doctoral study	undergraduate, mas- ter and doctoral study	teacher for gymnasium, master and doctoral study
Size	too big	good size	small size
Buildings	many 15 years old	many 20 years old	65 and 40 years old
Facilities	very good	very good	medium
Psychology	5 full-time professors	4 full-time professors	2 full-time professors
Part-time staff	10 scientific assistants	1 scientific assistant	2 scientific assistant
Secretary	2 part-time (2/3)	no secretary	1 part-time (1/2)
Student staff	4 students	3 students	2 students
Cooperation	Good	Very good	Medium until now
Research projects	4 or more per year	2 or more per year	1 now, later more
Computers	about 10	5 and all doctoral and master students	5
Network	not yet	yes	not yet

NORMAL STUDENTS

	Deutsche Sporthoch-schule Köln	Institute of Health and Sport Sciences of the University of Tsukuba	Institut für Sportwissenschaft der Friedrich-Schiller-Universität Jena
Subjects	Diplom-Sport only or sport and 1 other subject (English, mathematic, etc.)	Sport only	Sport and 1 other subject (English, mathematic, etc.)
University level sport	None or a little, tournaments are not very important, club sport is more impor- tant, Students do not seem to be overloaded.	Almost everyday, tournaments are very important, club system not really existent. Undergranduates seem to be overloaded, tired.	None or a little, tournaments are not very important, club sport is more important. Students do not seem to be overloaded.
Discipline :	medium	high	high
Seminar size			
- undergrad.	20 to 40	20 to 40	20
- master pro.	no special seminars	20 to 45 (sport psych.)	10, started in 1993
- doctoral p.	no special seminars	1 to 8	no special seminars
Preparation for lectures	medium	medium	medium
Participation in seminars	regular (75%)	regular (80%)	regular (80%)
Discussion	several times (German)	low (English)	several times (German)
Examination of seminars	medium to good	medium to good	medium to good
Contact with students	lot	few	few until now
Oral examina- tions	- sport psychology - motor control	no oral examinations for graduation	- sport psychology - motor control
Graduation ceremony	no	yes in March	no